SPORTS SECTION
DIANA PALMER PLANS WHIRLPOOL CHANNEL SWIM.
Ex-Olympic Champ hopes to be First Woman to Succeed in Channel
BEGINNING - "WHIRLPOOL CHANNEL"

I DIDN'T KNOW YOU WERE DOING THIS, DIANA.
I WAS TRAINING WHEN I GOT MIXED UP WITH THAT JAIL-BREAK GANG.

DAVE, CAN SHE DO IT? IT SOUNDS DANGEROUS.
LET ME REMIND YOU, MY NIECE IS ONE OF THE WORLD'S BEST SWIMMERS.
WILSON McCOY 3-26

DICE - A BIG-TIME GAMBLER HOODLUM
WHY YOU SO INTERESTED IN THAT PALMER DAME, DICE?
JUST AN IDEA - AND MY IDEAS USUALLY MEAN MONEY. LET'S GO WATCH HER TRAIN.

I'LL TRAIN TWO MORE WEEKS BEFORE I TRY THE SWIM.
NO WOMAN'S EVER MADE WHIRLPOOL CHANNEL, MISS PALMER. THINK YOU CAN?
NATURALLY! SHE WOULDN'T TRY IF SHE DIDN'T THINK SO. SHE CAN'T MISS!
WILSON McCOY 3-27
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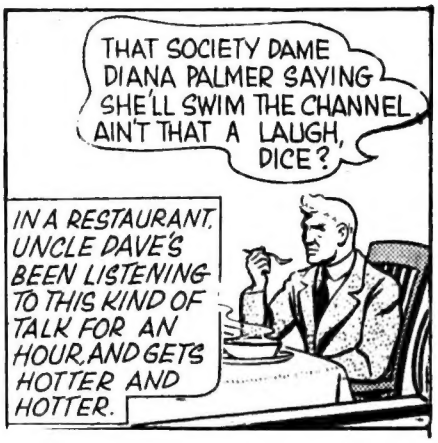
I STILL DON'T GET YOUR IDEA, DICE.
THAT OLD GUY IS DAVE PALMER, HER UNCLE. SHE'S THE APPLE OF HIS EYE--
WILSON McCOY 3-28

AND THERE'S NO SUCKER LIKE AN OLD, DOTING UNCLE! WE'LL TAKE HIM TO THE CLEANERS
DICE, YOU'RE A GENIUS. I SMELL MONEY - DAVE PALMER'S MONEY!


THAT SOCIETY DAME DIANA PALMER SAYING SHE'LL SWIM THE CHANNEL AIN'T THAT A LAUGH, DICE?
IN A RESTAURANT, UNCLE DAVE'S BEEN LISTENING TO THIS KIND OF TALK FOR AN HOUR, AND GETS HOTTER AND HOTTER.

SHE'S A PUBLICITY HOUND--A FAKE! AFTER SHE'S GOTTEN ALL THE PICTURES SHE CAN, SHE'LL QUIT COLD.

THAT "SOCIETY DAME" HAPPENS TO BE MY NIECE - AND SHE'S NOT A FAKE! SHE'LL SWIM THE--
DON'T MAKE ME LAUGH. SHE WON'T EVEN TRY-

AND ANGRY DAVE FALLS INTO THE TRAP!
- AND IF SHE IS SILLY ENOUGH TO - SHE'LL NEVER MAKE IT ACROSS! I'LL BET ANYTHING ON THAT!
I'LL TAKE YOUR BET! (SPUTTER-SPUTTER) PUT IT UP!

SO YOU'RE BETTING A HUNDRED THOUSAND YOUR NIECE CAN SWIM THE CHANNEL. WHAT IF SHE CALLS IT OFF?
SHE WON'T CALL IT OFF.. (SPUTTER) SPUTTER)

WHAT IF SHE GETS A LITTLE HEAD-ACHE-OR COLD FEET-AND DOESN'T SHOW UP?
I'M BETTING... (SPUTTER-SPUTTER) -SHE MAKES THE SWIM! PERIOD! NO EXCUSES!
WILSON McCOY 3-29
WORLD RIGHTS RESERVED

OKAY-WE UNDERSTAND EACH OTHER. I'M GIVING YOU TWO TO ONE ODDS-
HONEST JOHN HOLDS THE STAKES-SIGN!
(SIZZLE-SIZZLE)

DICE, YOU HANDLED HIM LIKE A MASTER! HE WALKED RIGHT INTO IT!
YEAH, HE LOST HIS HEAD. NOW LET'S HAVE ANOTHER LOOK AT THE PALMER GIRL.
FINE FOOD

UNCLE DAVE, AREN'T YOU COMING WITH US FOR MY PRACTICE SWIM TODAY?
NO, DIANA. YOU GO AHEAD... I DON'T FEEL TOO WELL TODAY-

IN FACT-I FEEL TERRIBLE! WHAT A FOOL I WAS TO BET WITH THOSE HOODLUM GAMBLERS THAT DIANA COULD AND WOULD SWIM WHIRLPOOL CHANNEL...

IF SHE FAILS-I'LL LOSE EVERYTHING I HAVE-AND MORE! I WAS AN IDIOT-BUT I COULDN'T HELP MYSELF AFTER THE WAY THEY TALKED ABOUT HER...
WILSON McCOY 3-30

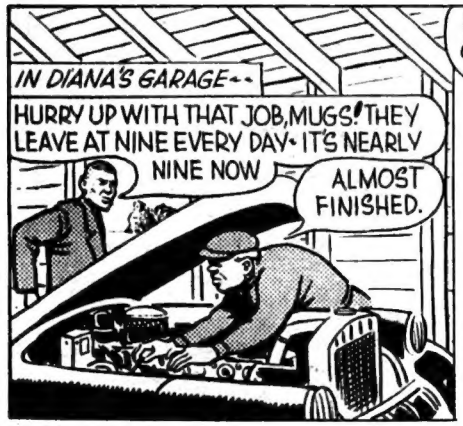
I CAN'T TELL HER WHAT I'VE DONE-IT'D ONLY WORRY HER. IF SHE CHANGES HER MIND ABOUT DOING IT-FAILS-IT'S JUST MY OWN HARD LUCK.

YOU'VE HAD ENOUGH. TIME'S UP, DIANA.
I HATE TO STOP-THE WATER'S WONDERFUL TODAY.

YOU'RE NOT EVEN TIRED! I THINK YOU'RE GOING TO MAKE THAT CHANNEL SWIM!
ANOTHER WEEK OF THIS TRAINING, AND I'LL BE READY.

SAY, DICE-THAT PALMER GAL SWIMS LIKE A FISH! MAYBE SHE CAN DO THE CHANNEL-MAYBE YOU MADE A BAD BET!
DON'T YOU KNOW BETTER THAN THAT?

I ONLY BET ON SURE THINGS! YOU THINK I'LL LET HER GET ANYWHERE NEAR THAT CHANNEL? MAYBE SHE'LL HAVE AN ACCIDENT... TOMORROW...
WILSON McCOY 3-31


IN DIANA'S GARAGE--
HURRY UP WITH THAT JOB, MUGS! THEY LEAVE AT NINE EVERY DAY. IT'S NEARLY NINE NOW
ALMOST FINISHED.

RUN! I HEAR 'EM COMIN!
WILSON McCOY 4-2

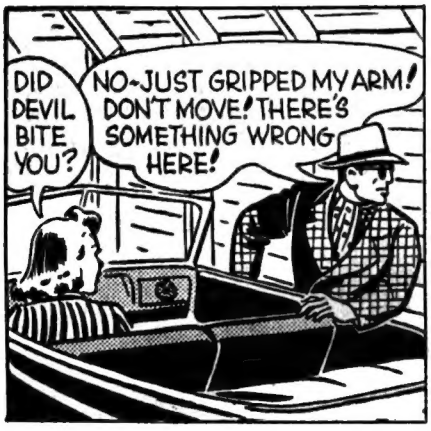
OH, HOW I HATED TO GET UP THIS MORNING. I'LL FEEL BETTER WHEN I GET IN THE WATER--
YOUR TRAINING'S ALMOST OVER, DIANA--

THE GADGET'S ALL SET, DICE - BUT AREN'T WE PLAYIN' A LITTLE ROUGH?
I WANT THAT MONEY! WHEN THEY PRESS THE STARTER ON THAT CAR - VOOM! NO CHANNEL SWIM!

WHY DOESN'T THE CAR START? OH, I AWAYS FORGET TO TURN THE IGNITION KEY. WHAT'S THE MATTER WITH DEVIL?
I DON'T KNOW. WHAT IS IT, FELLA?
JUNGLE BRED, SENSING UNKNOWN DANGER, DEVIL BARKS
WOOF! WOOF!! GRRR!!!

COME ON, FELLA. STOP THAT RACKET. WE'VE GOT TO GO--
WILSON McCOY 4-3

DEVIL'S STRONG JAWS CLOSE ON HIS ARM--
DIANA'S GOT TO SWIM - HEY - DEVIL!


DID DEVIL BITE YOU?
NO - JUST GRIPPED MY ARM! DON'T MOVE! THERE'S SOMETHING WRONG HERE!

HE'D NEVER DO THAT UNLESS HE WAS WARNING ME - HE SENSES DANGER - HE CAN'T POINT IT OUT - BUT HE KNOWS IT'S HERE - I DON'T SEE ANYTHING--
GRRR

HOW ABOUT THE CAR? HMM - TNT ATTACHED TO THE STARTER!
WILSON McCOY 4-4

THEY MUSTA FOUND IT - THE WAY THEY CAME RUNNING OUTA THE GARAGE! NOW WHAT, DICE?
TOMORROW'S ANOTHER DAY. WE'LL FIND ANOTHER WAY!

TNT~ATTACHED TO THE STARTER. IF IT HADN'T BEEN FOR DEVIL, DIANA AND I'D HAVE BEEN INJURED OR KILLED. DO YOU HAVE ANY ENEMIES, DIANA?
GOOD NIGHT, NO! I CAN'T IMAGINE WHO'D DO THAT~~
!!
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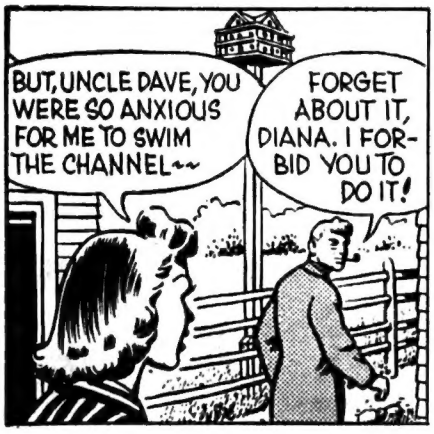
WILSON McCOY 4-5
THE GAMBLERS DID IT, TRYING TO KEEP DIANA FROM SWIMMING, SO THEY'D WIN THE BET. WHAT AN IDIOT I WAS TO BET!

DIANA, I WANT YOU TO FORGET ABOUT THE CHANNEL SWIM. IT'S OFF! THAT'S FINAL.
WHAT? BUT, UNCLE DAVE~~ WHY?


BUT, UNCLE DAVE, YOU WERE SO ANXIOUS FOR ME TO SWIM THE CHANNEL~~
FORGET ABOUT IT, DIANA. I FORBID YOU TO DO IT!

WILSON McCOY 4-6
THERE GOES THE BET~AND EVERYTHING I OWN~BUT THOSE GAMBLERS ARE SET ON STOPPING HER~I WON'T RISK HER LIFE

WHY, I NEVER HEARD UNCLE DAVE TALK LIKE THAT BEFORE~~
HE KNOWS MORE THAN HE'S TELLING. I'LL TALK TO HIM.
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DAVE~WHAT'S TNT IN THE CAR HAVE TO DO WITH DIANA'S CHANNEL SWIM?
I'VE BEEN A STUPID OLD MAN~STUPID~~ STUPID!
WORLD RIGHTS RESERVED

DAVE TELLS THE PHANTOM HOW IT HAPPENED~
THAT PALMER DAME'S A FAKE. SHE'LL NEVER SWIM THE CHANNEL~
A PUBLICITY HOUND~~

I REALIZE NOW THEY MEANT FOR ME TO HEAR THEM~~I BET THEM EVERYTHING I HAD THAT DIANA COULD AND WOULD SWIM THE CHANNEL~ NO ALIBIS~~

NOW I SEE THEY'D KILL HER TO WIN THEIR BET. I'D RATHER LOSE EVERYTHING THAN HAVE HER EVEN SCRATCHED! THE SWIM'S OFF~~
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WILSON McCOY 4-7
I HEARD EVERYTHING YOU SAID, UNCLE DAVE! YOU'RE WRONG! THE SWIM'S ON!
WORLD RIGHTS RESERVED

AGREED, YOU WERE WRONG TO MAKE THAT BET, UNCLE DAVE. THEY TRAPPED YOU. AS FAR AS WE'RE CONCERNED, THE BET'S OFF.
THEY'RE HARD MEN. THEY'LL STOP AT NOTHING.
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I'M NOT AFRAID, UNCLE DAVE. DON'T WORRY. FORGET IT.
I'D BETTER GO TO THE POLICE.

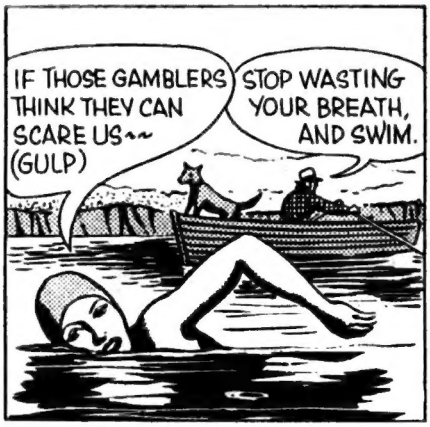
WE CAN'T PROVE THEY PUT THAT TNT IN THE CAR. COME ON, I'M LATE FOR MY TRAINING TODAY. I'VE GOT TO SWIM THAT CHANNEL, NOW, OR BUST!
WILSON McCOY 4-9

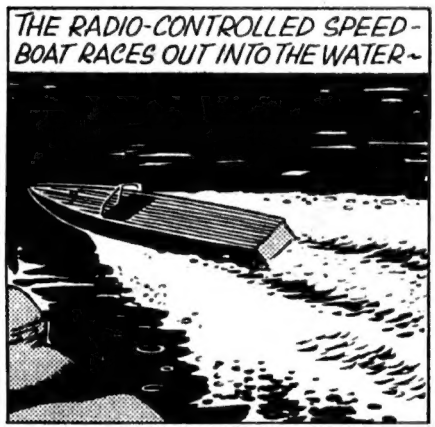
IT DON'T LOOK LIKE OUR TNT EVEN SCARED HER, DICE.
I THINK WE CAN SCARE HER! GET OUR BOAT READY!

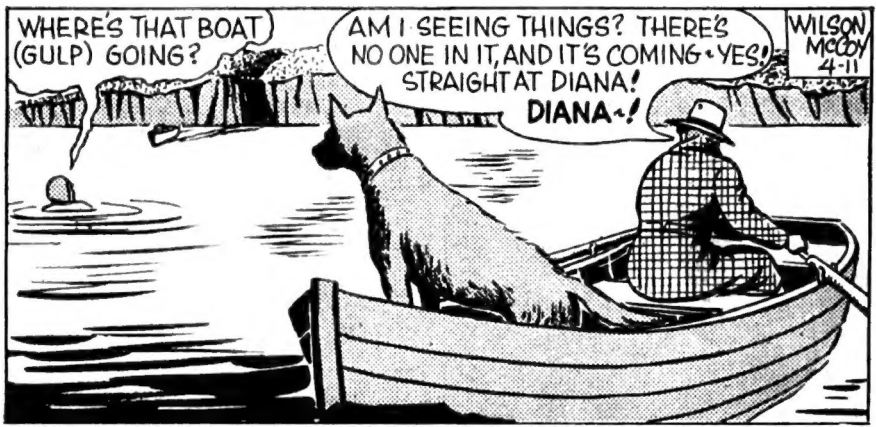
DIANA, WON'T YOU CHANGE YOUR MIND, AND GIVE IT UP?
NEVER! IT TAKES MORE THAN A FEW CHEAP GAMBLERS AND TNT TO STOP US PALMERS. BESIDES, DEVIL'LL TAKE CARE OF ME.. LET'S GO!

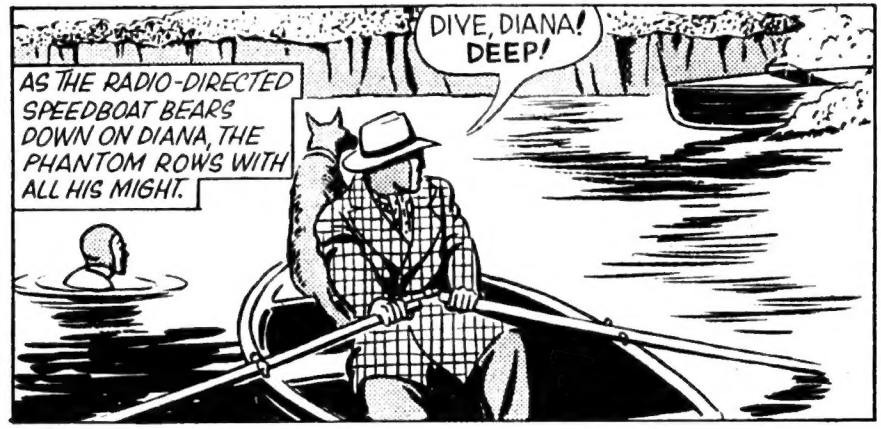
SHE'S STARTING HER PRACTICE SWIM. GET THE BOAT STARTED.
AW, DICE. CAN'T WE LET HER BE? SHE'LL NEVER CROSS THE CHANNEL. YOU'LL WIN YOUR BET!

DON'T TURN YELLOW ON ME, SCRATCH! I NEVER TAKE CHANCES. START THAT BOAT!
WILSON McCOY 4-10


IF THOSE GAMBLERS THINK THEY CAN SCARE US.. (GULP)
STOP WASTING YOUR BREATH, AND SWIM.


THE RADIO-CONTROLLED SPEED-BOAT RACES OUT INTO THE WATER.


WHERE'S THAT BOAT (GULP) GOING?
AM I SEEING THINGS? THERE'S NO ONE IN IT, AND IT'S COMING. YES! STRAIGHT AT DIANA! DIANA.!
WILSON McCOY 4-11

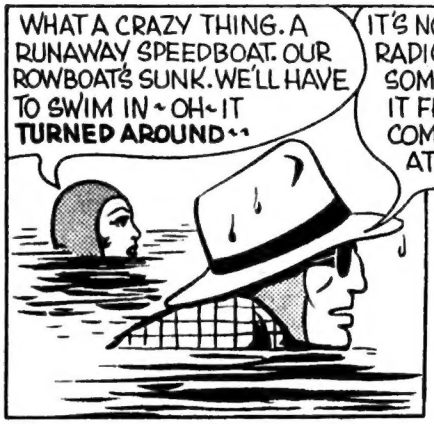

AS THE RADIO-DIRECTED SPEEDBOAT BEARS DOWN ON DIANA, THE PHANTOM ROWS WITH ALL HIS MIGHT.
DIVE, DIANA! DEEP!

AND GETTING BETWEEN HER AND THE SPEEDBOAT, CATCHES IT BROADSIDE!

CRASH
WILSON McCOY 4-12

(GULP) WHAT WAS THAT?
A RUNAWAY SPEED-BOAT WITHOUT A DRIVER

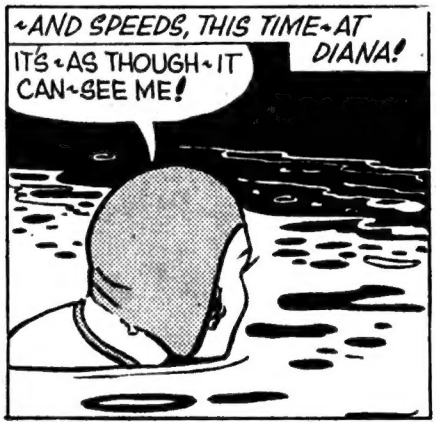
MISSED HER! THEY'RE ALL IN THE WATER NOW! TURN THE BOAT AROUND AND TRY AGAIN.

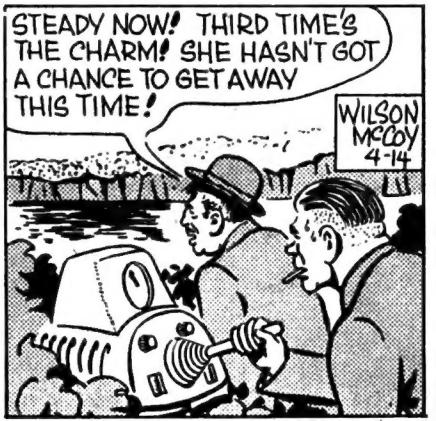

WHAT A CRAZY THING. A RUNAWAY SPEEDBOAT. OUR ROWBOAT'S SUNK. WE'LL HAVE TO SWIM IN - OH - IT TURNED AROUND
IT'S NOT A RUNAWAY! IT'S RADIO-CONTROLLED! SOMEONE'S DIRECTING IT FROM SHORE. IT'S COMING BACK AT US

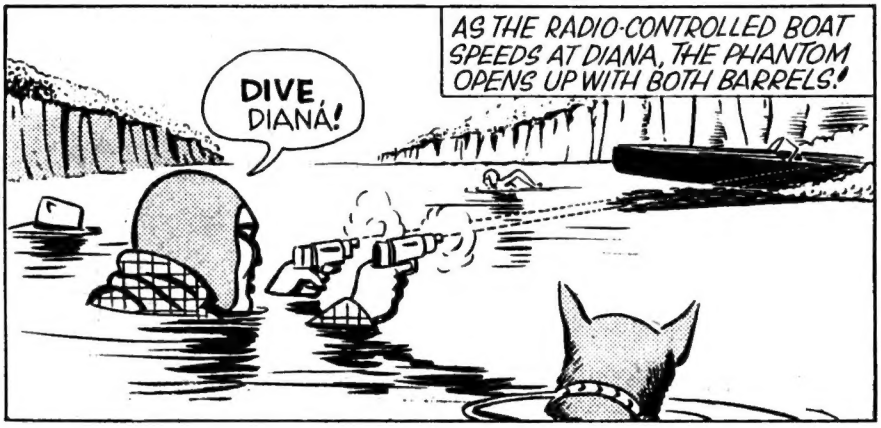
WILSON McCOY 4-13

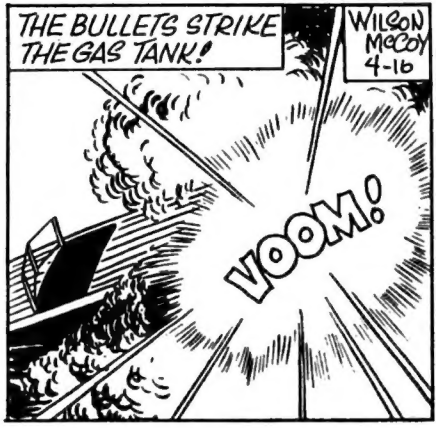
AS THE RADIO-CONTROLLED SPEED-BOAT BEARS DOWN ON THEM AGAIN - THEY SWIM APART
MISSED US!
NOT BY MUCH!

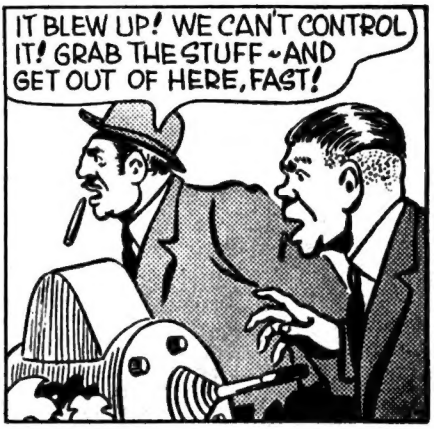
AS IF WITH AN EVIL WILL OF ITS OWN, THE BOAT VEERS ABOUT SHARPLY

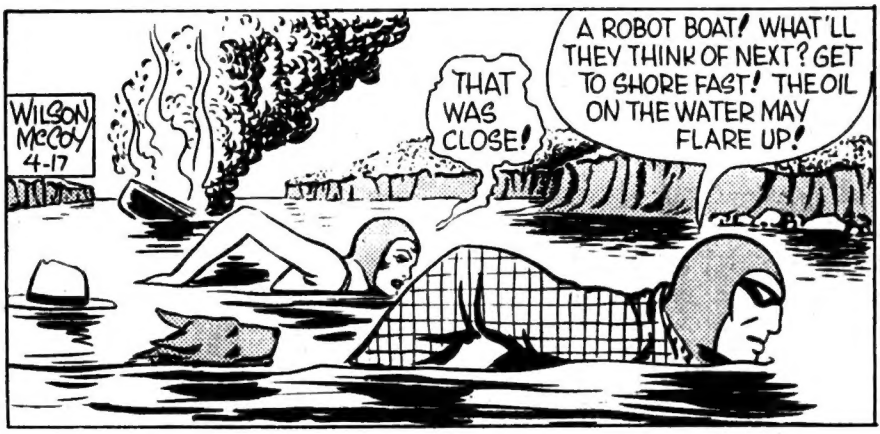

AND SPEEDS, THIS TIME - AT DIANA!
IT'S - AS THOUGH - IT CAN - SEE ME!


STEADY NOW! THIRD TIME'S THE CHARM! SHE HASN'T GOT A CHANCE TO GET AWAY THIS TIME!
WILSON McCOY 4-14


AS THE RADIO-CONTROLLED BOAT SPEEDS AT DIANA, THE PHANTOM OPENS UP WITH BOTH BARRELS!
DIVE, DIANA!


THE BULLETS STRIKE THE GAS TANK!
WILSON McCOY 4-16
VOOM!


IT BLEW UP! WE CAN'T CONTROL IT! GRAB THE STUFF ~ AND GET OUT OF HERE, FAST!


WILSON McCOY 4-17
THAT WAS CLOSE!
A ROBOT BOAT! WHAT'LL THEY THINK OF NEXT? GET TO SHORE FAST! THE OIL ON THE WATER MAY FLARE UP!

THANK GOODNESS YOU BOTH ESCAPED! THE GAMBLERS DID THAT! DIANA, YOU'VE GOT TO GIVE UP THE SWIM, NOW!
NO, SIR, UNCLE DAVE! MY DANDER'S UP! I WON'T QUIT!

DAVE, TELL ME WHO THE GAMBLERS ARE! LET ME HANDLE THIS!
NO! I GOT US INTO THIS MESS! IT'S UP TO ME TO GET US OUT OF IT!

I SPENT SIX GRAND ON THAT ROBOT BOAT! NOW IT'S ALL GONE, AND WE STILL HAVEN'T STOPPED THAT GIRL!
IT WAS YOUR IDEA, DICE.

I'M GETTIN' TOO DEEP IN THIS THING! I BET A HUNDRED GRAND SHE WOULDN'T MAKE THE SWIM! I THOUGHT SHE'D BE EASY TO SCARE OFF...
WILSON McCOY 4-18
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WE'RE NOT STOPPIN', SEE! DIANA PALMER ISN'T GONNA SWIM WHIRLPOOL CHANNEL! I'LL WIN THAT BET IF IT'S THE LAST... SEE WHO'S AT THE DOOR.
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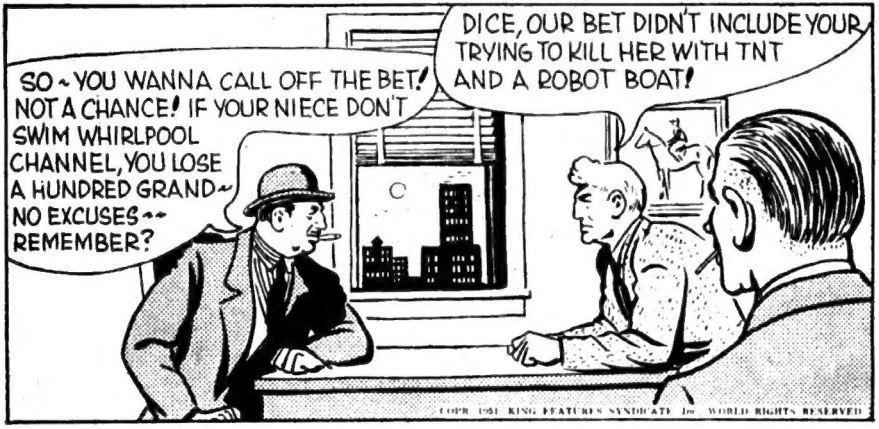
WELL, DAVE PALMER! WHAT'S ON YOUR MIND?
I THINK YOU KNOW, DICE! I WANT TO TALK TO YOU!


SO ~ YOU WANNA CALL OFF THE BET! NOT A CHANCE! IF YOUR NIECE DON'T SWIM WHIRLPOOL CHANNEL, YOU LOSE A HUNDRED GRAND ~ NO EXCUSES ~~ REMEMBER?
DICE, OUR BET DIDN'T INCLUDE YOUR TRYING TO KILL HER WITH TNT AND A ROBOT BOAT!
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TNT? ROBOT BOAT? WHAT YOU TALKING ABOUT? YOU BEEN HAVIN' BAD DREAMS?
WILSON McCOY 4-19

I DIDN'T DREAM ANYTHING, AND YOU KNOW IT! WE'RE CALLING THE BET OFF, RIGHT NOW!
GETTIN' ROUGH WITH ME? THAT'S RISKY BUSINESS, PALMER!

PULLIN' A ROD ON ME, DAVE PALMER? YOU OUGHTA KNOW BETTER'N THAT!

UNCLE DAVE INSISTED ON GOING TO THOSE GANGSTERS ALONE! I HOPE NOTHING ~~ THERE'S THE BELL! THAT'S HIM NOW! THANK GOODNESS HE'S COME BACK ~~

!!
WILSON McCOY 4-20

UNCLE DAVE!!

THOSE GANGSTERS GAVE DAVE A BAD BEATING, BUT HE'LL BE ALL RIGHT, DIANA
THANK GOODNESS

I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO DO! IF I GIVE UP THE SWIM, UNCLE DAVE'LL LOSE ALL HIS MONEY TO THOSE GANGSTERS ~~

~ IF I KEEP GOING ~ THEY'LL STOP AT NOTHING ~ THEY'VE ALREADY TRIED TO KILL US ~~ THEY'LL TRY AGAIN ~ WHAT CAN I DO?
I THINK YOU'D BETTER LET ME TAKE OVER
WILSON McCOY 4-21
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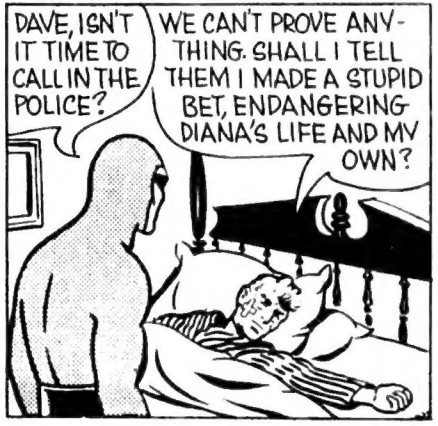
SPORTS SECTION
HAS DIANA PALMER GIVEN UP CHANNEL SWIM?
SPORTS CIRCLES BUZZING AS STAR MISSES SECOND WORKOUT, WITH EVENT ONLY ONE WEEK AWAY.

I'M SO NERVOUS - AND UPSET ABOUT UNCLE DAVE AND THOSE GAMBLERS ~ I CAN'T KEEP MY MIND ON SWIMMING ~ I DON'T FEEL LIKE GOING OUT - TODAY - -


DAVE, ISN'T IT TIME TO CALL IN THE POLICE?
WE CAN'T PROVE ANYTHING. SHALL I TELL THEM I MADE A STUPID BET, ENDANGERING DIANA'S LIFE AND MY OWN?

SHE STOPPED PRACTICIN'. LOST HER NERVE. LOOKS LIKE YOU'LL WIN YOUR BET, DICE.
NATURALLY! I NEVER DOUBTED IT!
WILSON, McCOY 4-23

DIANA, THERE'S ONLY ONE THING TO DO. ADMIT WE'RE LICKED. CALL OFF THE SWIM. I'LL TAKE NO MORE CHANCES WITH YOU.
YES, UNCLE DAVE.

NO! DIANA WANTS TO TRY THE CHANNEL. SHE HAS THAT RIGHT! THE BET MUST BE CALLED OFF!
DICE WON'T AGREE TO IT. I FOUND THAT OUT!

THEY'RE KILLERS! BELIEVE ME, THEY WON'T DO IT!
MAYBE I CAN CHANGE THEIR MINDS.

I WANT TO SEE DICE.
HE'S NOT HERE! TAKE OFF!

BUT I'M A FRIEND OF DIANA PALMER'S. I MUST SEE DICE.
IF HE WAS HERE HE WOULDN'T WANNA SEE YOU! NOW BEAT IT!
WILSON, McCOY 4-24

BANG

THAT'S NOT POLITE ~ SLAMMING THE DOOR IN A VISITOR'S FACE!
WILSON, McCOY 4-25

YOU'RE RIGHT. THE PLACE IS EMPTY. WHERE IS DICE?
UH -- HE'S AT HONEST JOHN'S --
WILSON McCOY 4-26

HONEST JOHN, THE MAN WHO IS HOLDING THE BET THAT DAVE MADE. THAT'S A GOOD PLACE TO TALK TO DICE!

TELL DICE - THE PALMER DAME'S BOY FRIEND IS ON THE WAY THERE TO SEE HIM. TELL HIM - TO WATCH OUT! HE'S ROUGH!

HONEST JOHN'S - MEETING PLACE OF THE UNDERWORLD -
THE PALMER DAME'S BOY FRIEND'S OUTSIDE, DICE.
SEND SLUG HERE.

SLUG, THERE'S A GUY WANTS TO TALK TO ME. AFTER WE FINISH TALKING, I WANT YOU TO TAKE HIM APART.
OKAY, DICE.

I IMAGINE HE'S ONE OF THESE RAHRAH COLLEGE ATHLETES - THINKS HE'S TOUGH.
I LIKE 'EM LIKE THAT!
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WILSON McCOY 4-27
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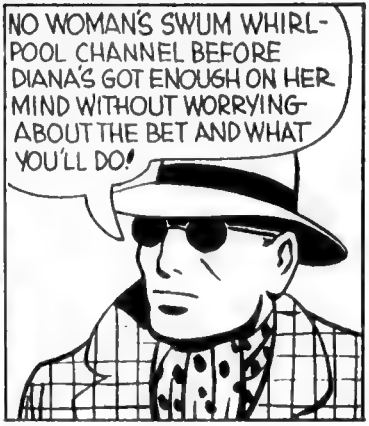
WELL?
DICE, I'M A FRIEND OF DIANA PALMER'S. I WANT YOU TO CALL OFF THE BET ON THAT SWIM YOU MADE WITH HER UNCLE.

HONEST JOHN HERE HOLDS THE STAKES. HE CAN RETURN THE BETS TO YOU AND DAVE PALMER - AND IT CAN ALL BE FORGOTTEN

LISTEN AT HIM. AIN'T HE A RIOT?
AND WHAT IF I DON'T WANNA FORGET ABOUT IT? WHAT'LL YOU DO ABOUT IT, "BOY FRIEND?"
WILSON McCOY 4-28

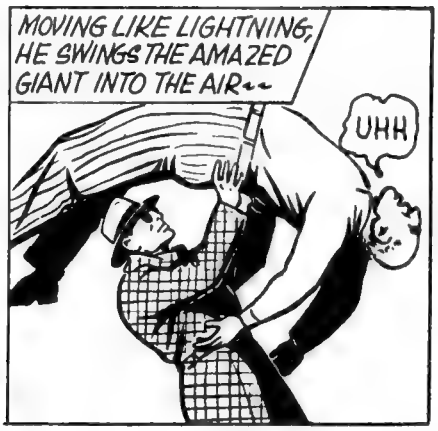
IN SPITE OF WHAT YOU'VE ALREADY DONE, I SUGGEST WE SETTLE THIS PEACEFULLY, DICE
HE SUGGESTS! HAW-HAW-- AIN'T THIS RAH-RAH BOY A RIOT?


NO WOMAN'S SWUM WHIRLPOOL CHANNEL BEFORE DIANA'S GOT ENOUGH ON HER MIND WITHOUT WORRYING ABOUT THE BET AND WHAT YOU'LL DO!

THE PHANTOM IS CAUGHT BY SURPRISE BY THE GIANT BOUNCER IN THE UNDERWORLD DEN!
AIN'T THAT TOO BAD! TAKE HIM OUTSIDE AND WORK HIM OVER, SLUG. WE'LL GET BACK TO OUR GAME!

WILSON McCOY 4-30

THE PHANTOM SUDDENLY TWISTS OUT OF THE BOUNCER'S GRASP--
HUH?


MOVING LIKE LIGHTNING, HE SWINGS THE AMAZED GIANT INTO THE AIR--
UHH

GOOD NIGHT!
SORRY TO BREAK UP YOUR GAME-BUT I CAME HERE TO TALK!
WILSON McCOY 5-1

YOU--YOU!

THE ENRAGED GIANT 'SLUG' RUSHES AT THE PHANTOM--THEN-
HAVEN'T YOU HAD ENOUGH?

HE KNOCKED SLUG COLD! IMPOSSIBLE!
IT NEVER HAPPENED BEFORE--
ARE YOU READY TO DISCUSS OUR BUSINESS, DICE?
WILSON McCOY 5-2

THE PHANTOM DOESN'T EVEN TURN-
I WANTED TO KEEP THIS PEACEFUL.

NO GUNS! THAT'LL BRING THE LAW! EVERYBODY AT HIM!

IN A FLASH, THE PHANTOM IS IN THE MIDDLE OF A 'DOG FIGHT' IN THE UNDERWORLD DEN OF 'HONEST JOHN!'
WILSON McCOY 5-3

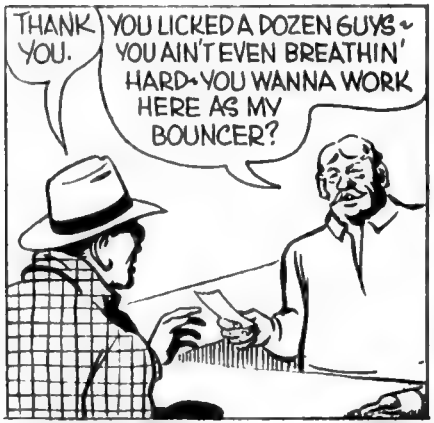
WANT A ROUGHHOUSE?
VERY WELL, I'VE PLAYED THIS GAME BEFORE!

IN THE UNDERWORLD DEN, THE MIGHTY JUNGLE MUSCLES OF THE PHANTOM GO TO WORK.
THEY HAVEN'T EVEN KNOCKED OFF ··HIS HAT!

DICE! YOU'RE THE MAN I CAME TO SEE! COME BACK HERE!

NOW-TELL HONEST JOHN THE BET IS OFF·· BEFORE I LOSE MY TEMPER!
WILSON McCOY 5-4

DICE, TELL HONEST JOHN TO RETURN THE CHECKS. I'LL TAKE DAVE PALMER'S. THAT ENDS THE BET.
DO AS HE SAYS, JOHN··


THANK YOU.
YOU LICKED A DOZEN GUYS- YOU AIN'T EVEN BREATHIN' HARD-YOU WANNA WORK HERE AS MY BOUNCER?

NO, THANKS. I DISLIKE VIOLENCE, 'GENTLEMEN', BUT YOU ASKED FOR IT, AND I ALWAYS TRY TO OBLIGE. GOOD-BYE. PERHAPS WE'LL MEET AGAIN.
WILSON McCOY 5-5

THE 'RAH-RAH' BOY TURNED OUT TO BE A ONE-MAN ARMY! MADE YOU AND YOUR ROUGHNECKS LOOK KINDA FOOLISH, DICE! THIS'LL BE ALL OVER TOWN!
LET'S GET OUTA HERE!
I'M ~ (GROAN) COMIN', DICE ~~
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I'M THE LAUGHING-STOCK OF THIS TOWN! I'LL STOP THAT PALMER DAME FROM SWIMMING AND GET HER BOY FRIEND, IF IT'S THE LAST THING I DO!
WILSON McCOY 5-7

BUT, DICE, THE BET'S OFF. YOU CALLED IT OFF.
FORGET THE BET! YOU HEARD WHAT I SAID! NOBODY CAN MAKE ME LOOK FOOLISH!

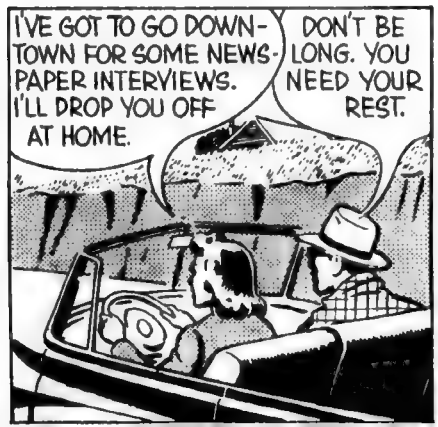
THE BET'S OFF? HOW IN THE WORLD DID YOU DO IT?
I TALKED THEM OUT OF IT, DAVE.

YOU MUST HAVE TALKED FAST.
I DID. I MUST TELL DIANA IT'S ALL CLEARED UP.

HOW WONDERFUL. THAT NIGHTMARE'S OVER! I CAN HARDLY BELIEVE IT!
ALL YOU'VE GOT TO WORRY ABOUT IS SWIMMING THE CHANNEL ~~ AND THAT'S PLENTY!

IF THE PHANTOM THINKS IT'S ALL OVER, HE DOESN'T KNOW DICE!
THAT BOY FRIEND OF HERS MADE ME EAT CROW IN PUBLIC! I'LL GET EVEN! JUST WATCH!
WILSON McCOY 5-8

MAKE THIS WORK OUT A GOOD ONE, DIANA. TOMORROW'S THE DAY.
I FEEL WONDERFUL!


I'VE GOT TO GO DOWN-TOWN FOR SOME NEWS-PAPER INTERVIEWS. I'LL DROP YOU OFF AT HOME.
DON'T BE LONG. YOU NEED YOUR REST.

NO, DIANA ISN'T HOME. ARE YOU REPORTERS? OH~~
NO, LADY, WE AIN'T. WE'LL WAIT FOR HER.

HOW DARE YOU COME IN HERE! THE BET'S OFF~
RELAX. WE'RE NOT AFTER YOU. WE'RE WAITIN'~FOR THE BOY FRIEND!
WILSON McCOY 5-9

HERE HE COMES!

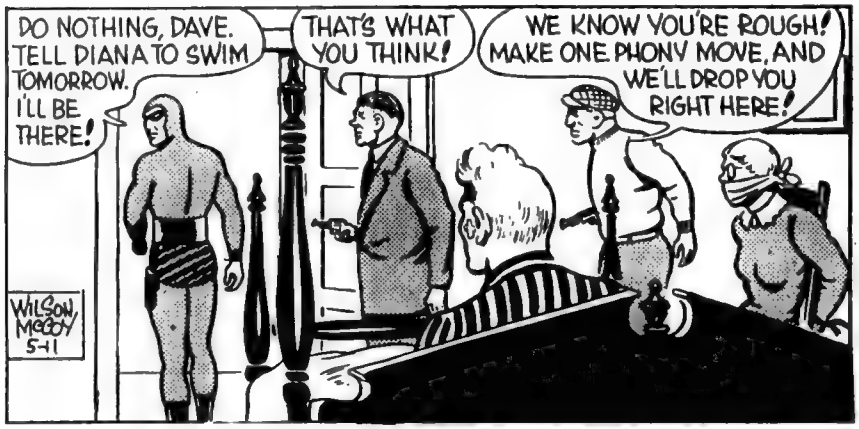
TOO BAD YOU COULDN'T BE OUT WITH US TODAY, DAVE. DIANA HAD A FINE WORKOUT. SHE'S IN WONDERFUL SHAPE FOR THE SWIM TOMORROW.
WILSON McCOY 5-10

SHE'LL MAKE IT~I~~ WHAT IS THIS?
WHAT'S THIS?
COPR. 1961, KING FEATNDICATE, Inc., WORLD RIGHTS RESERVED

IS THIS HIM?
A TWO-WAY SURPRISE.

THAT'S HIM, ALL RIGHT~IN SPITE OF THE GETUP! DICE WANTS TO SEE YOU, PAL! COME ON!

IF YOU CALL THE POLICE, WE'LL BE BACK TO FINISH YOU! GOT THAT?
YES~~


DO NOTHING, DAVE. TELL DIANA TO SWIM TOMORROW. I'LL BE THERE!
THAT'S WHAT YOU THINK!
WE KNOW YOU'RE ROUGH! MAKE ONE PHONY MOVE, AND WE'LL DROP YOU RIGHT HERE!
WILSON McCOY 5-11

WHAT IN~WHO HAVE YOU GOT THERE?
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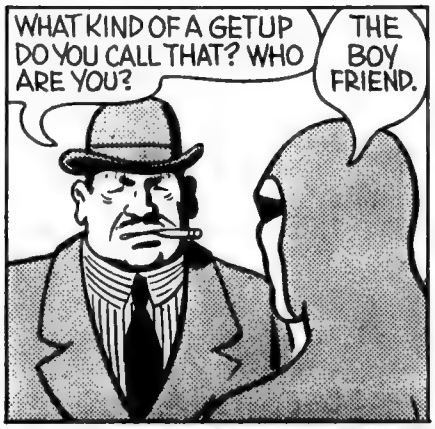
IT'S HIM~THE BOY FRIEND~ ALL RIGGED UP FOR A FANCY PARTY.
WILSON McCOY 5-12


WHAT KIND OF A GETUP DO YOU CALL THAT? WHO ARE YOU?
THE BOY FRIEND.

WISE GUY! YOU MADE A FOOL OUTA ME! BEFORE I'M THRU WITH YOU, YOU'LL BE LAUGHIN' ON THE OTHER SIDE OF YOUR FACE!

IS THIS HIM?
SLUG, THE GIANT BOUNCER FROM 'HONEST JOHN'S'--
YES, SLUG, IT IS, IN SPITE OF THE MONKEY SUIT. LAST TIME HE TOSSED YOU AROUND LIKE A FOOTBALL!
HE'S ALL YOURS-AND THIS TIME HIS HANDS ARE TIED! YOU OUGHTA BE ABLE TO HANDLE HIM! GO TO IT! NOW!

IT'S A PLEASURE!
WILSON McCOY 5-14

TIED, THE PHANTOM DUCKS--
DO YOU ENJOY HITTING A MAN WHO CAN'T HIT BACK?
YEAH!

--AND DUCKS AGAIN--

--AND AGAIN--
DUCH!
WILSON McCOY 5-15

HE-HE WON'T STAND STILL! UH-MY HAND!
USE YOUR OTHER HAND, YOU LAME-BRAINED MOOSE!

AS THE GIANT 'SLUG' SWINGS AGAIN, THE TIED PHANTOM RAMS INTO HIM--
5-16

SCRATCH-- DO SOMETHING!

WOW-HE'S A TOUGH BABY! WONDER WHO HE IS!
WE'LL GET BACK TO HIM! NOW LET'S START THINKING ABOUT THE GIRL FRIEND DIANA PALMER!

ARE YOU REALLY GOING TO MAKE THE CHANNEL SWIM TOMORROW, MISS PALMER?
I AM--OR DROWN IN THE ATTEMPT.

ARE THE RUMORS TRUE, THAT A CERTAIN WELL-KNOWN GAMBLER HAS TRIED TO STOP THE SWIM?
THAT'S ALL OVER. I'LL SWIM TOMORROW.

ONE MORE, MISS PALMER?
HURRY, PLEASE. I HAVE TO GET HOME AND REST.
WILSON, McCOY 5-17

DIANA-THEY WERE HERE--THOSE MEN-THEY TOOK HIM AWAY-THEY TIED ME UP--OH, IT WAS TERRIBLE!
WHAT?

THIS HAS GONE FAR ENOUGH! I'M CALLING THE POLICE!
WAIT, DIANA. WE DON'T KNOW WHERE THEY TOOK HIM. HE SAID-"DO NOTHING. TELL DIANA TO MAKE THE SWIM."

HE ALSO SAID, "I'LL BE THERE FOR THE SWIM."
I SUPPOSE HE KNOWS BEST.

I'LL DO AS HE SAID I HOPE HE'S ALL RIGHT-HE JUST HAS TO BE ALL RIGHT-OH, I'LL BE SO GLAD WHEN IT'S ALL OVER.

BUT RIGHT NOW THE PHANTOM IS FAR FROM ALL RIGHT!
WILSON, McCOY 5-18

YOU SURE WERE A BIG HELP--GET OUT!
UH-MY STOMACH!

YEAH, I GOT SOME THINKING TO DO. TOMORROW THE GIRL SWIMS THE CHANNEL. ONLY SHE'S NOT!

IF ANYTHING HAPPENS TO HER NOW, DICE, EVERYBODY IN TOWN'LL KNOW YOU DID IT.
DON'T YOU THINK I KNOW THAT? QUIET! I'VE GOT AN IDEA!

LEAVE ONE OF THE BOYS TO WATCH HIM! IT'S KIND OF A CRAZY IDEA-BUT WHAT AN IDEA! IT'LL WORK!
WHAT WILL, DICE?
WILSON, McCOY 5-19

DICE, HOW CAN YOU STOP DIANA FROM SWIMMIN' NOW? IF ANYTHING HAPPENS, YOU'LL BE BLAMED.
NOT WITH MY PLAN.

ANY MAN-EATING SHARKS IN THESE WATERS, SKIPPER?
NOT HERE. FAR OUT TO SEA. WHY?

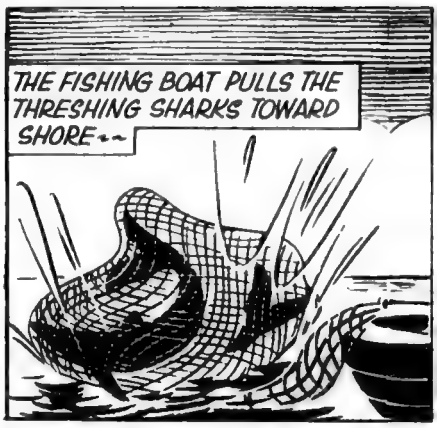
COULD YOU CATCH A COUPLE?
MAYBE. THEY GET IN MY NETS, SOMETIMES.

BUT WHO'D WANT TWO SHARKS, OR EVEN ONE?
WILSON McCOY 5-21
ME.

WHEW~TWO SHARKS, MAN-EATERS, ALL RIGHT! WHAT DID YOU SAY YOU WANTED THEM FOR?
A MUSEUM. WILL THOSE NETS HOLD THEM?
SURE, THEY'RE MADE OF CABLES.

DICE, YOU MIND TELLIN' ME WHAT YOU'RE REALLY GONNA DO WITH THEM?
I'M GOING TO DUMP THEM INTO WHIRL-POOL CHANNEL-

--AT THE SAME TIME DIANA STARTS HER SWIM! ANY MORE QUESTIONS?
WILSON McCOY 5-22
NO-O-O-


THE FISHING BOAT PULLS THE THRESHING SHARKS TOWARD SHORE--

WE'RE ALMOST TO THE DOCK. WHAT'LL WE DO WITH YOUR SHARKS NOW?
I'VE GOT MY MOTOR-BOAT WAITING. WE'LL ATTACH THE NET-LINES TO IT, AND HAUL THEM AWAY.

GOOD JOB, SKIPPER. HERE'S YOUR DOUGH.
THOSE SHARKS-FOR A MUSEUM, YOU SAID?

WILSON McCOY 5-23
????

YOU MEAN WE GOTTA SIT HERE ALL NIGHT WITH THESE SHARKS?
IT'S ALMOST DAWN. SEE HOW SIMPLE IT'LL BE. WE CUT THE NET-LINES--

"THE FISH HEAD FOR OPEN SEA-- BUT THEY GOTTA CROSS WHIRLPOOL CHANNEL- THE SAME TIME AS DIANA PALMER!"
WILSON McCOY 5-24

ER- HOW ABOUT THE MASKED GUY?
THAT'S WHY I GOT TWO SHARKS! ONE FOR HER- ONE FOR HIM!

SAY, YOU'RE LOOKIN' AT ME LIKE YOU THOUGHT I WAS WHACKY!
OH, NO, DICE! I DIDN'T SAY A WORD!

DIANA, YOU MUST TRY TO SLEEP. TOMORROW'S THE BIG DAY.
HOW CAN I SLEEP, UNCLE DAVE, THINKING ABOUT HIM?

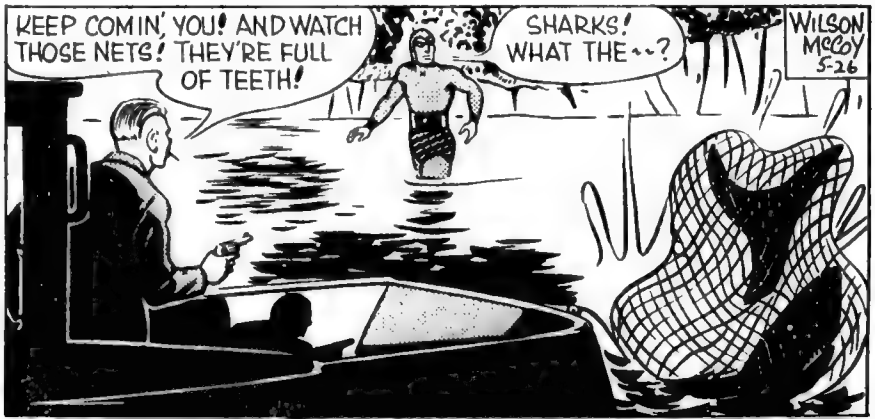
THOSE GANGSTERS TOOK HIM AWAY- THEY MIGHT-
DIANA, HE SAID YOU WERE TO SWIM WHIRLPOOL CHANNEL. HE SAID HE'D BE THERE TO WATCH YOU.

I HAVE COMPLETE CONFIDENCE IN YOUR STRANGE YOUNG MAN. HE'S NEVER FAILED US YET.
THAT'S TRUE. HE'LL FIND A WAY--

HE'S SO WONDERFUL-- SO VERY, VERY SPECIAL- BZZ---BZZ--
WILSON McCOY 5-25

HIGH TIME YOU WOKE UP, PAL! THE BOSS WANTS YOU AT THE SHORE.
SHORE?

KEEP WALKIN'--RIGHT DOWN TO THE WATER.


KEEP COMIN', YOU! AND WATCH THOSE NETS! THEY'RE FULL OF TEETH!
SHARKS! WHAT THE--?
WILSON McCOY 5-26

WHERE ON EARTH DID YOU GET THOSE SHARKS, DICE?
WHERE DO YOU USUALLY GET SHARKS? OUTA THE OCEAN!
WILSON McCOY 5-28

BUT WHY..?
YOU'LL FIND OUT. I'M TAKIN' A NAP, SCRATCH. KEEP HIM COVERED.

WILL YOU TELL ME WHAT THIS IS ALL ABOUT?
LIKE HE SAID, YOU'LL FIND OUT!

Newspaper
DIANA SWIMS WHIRLPOOL TODAY
HOPES TO BE FIRST WOMAN TO MAKE PERILOUS CROSSING

A CROWD GATHERS AT THE STARTING POINT!
WILSON McCOY 5-29
HERE SHE COMES!

OH, UNCLE DAVE, I DON'T SEE HIM ANYPLACE! HE'S NOT HERE!
DON'T WORRY. HE WILL BE!

AND IN A HIDDEN COVE--
SHE'S ON THE DOCK! ALMOST READY TO START!
I STILL DON'T GET IT. WHAT ARE THEY UP TO WITH THESE SHARKS?

THE TIMERS ARE WAITING, MISS PALMER. ARE YOU READY?

JUST A MINUTE! OH, UNCLE DAVE, HE HASN'T COME! SOMETHING HAPPENED TO HIM!
HOLD THAT, MISS PALMER.

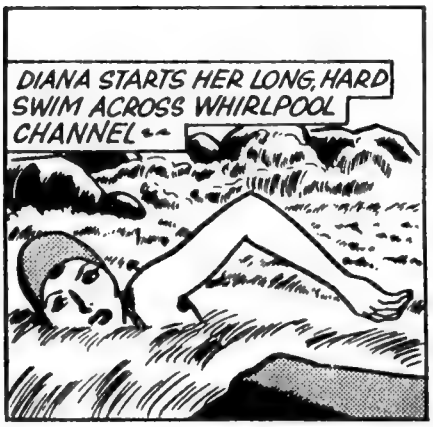
AS SOON AS YOUR GIRL FRIEND HITS THE WATER, WE LET THE SHARKS GO!
SO THAT'S IT! WHAT A WILD SCHEME! YET IT MIGHT WORK--THE WAY THEY WANT IT TO! HOW CAN I STOP THEM?
WILSON McCOY 5-30
PR 1951, KING FEATURES SYNDICATE, Inc., WORLD RIGHTS RESERVED

HE'S NOT HERE - HE MAY BE HURT OR - OH, HOW CAN I SWIM NOW?
HE'D EXPECT YOU TO, DIANA.

WHY HAVE YOU TWO DREAMED UP THIS FANTASTIC SCHEME TO KILL DIANA WITH SHARKS?
YOU'RE INCLUDED TOO. ASK DICE. IT'S HIS IDEA!
COPR 1961 KING FEATURES SYNDICATE Inc.

YOU AND YOUR GIRL FRIEND MADE A FOOL OUTA ME! THE WHOLE TOWN LAUGHED! THIS'LL MAKE 'EM STOP LAUGHIN'! READY, SCRATCH!
WORLD RIGHTS RESERVED.

HE SAID HE'D BE HERE! OH - WHERE IS HE?
WILSON McCOY 5-31

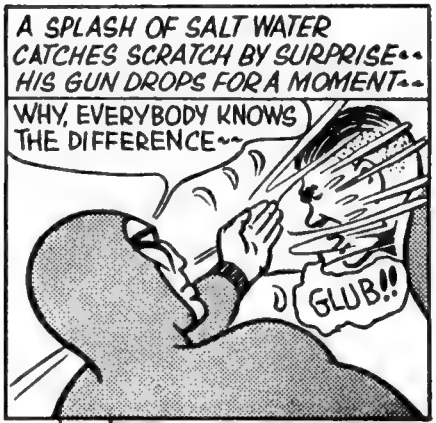

DIANA STARTS HER LONG, HARD SWIM ACROSS WHIRLPOOL CHANNEL - -

SHE'S OFF! OKAY, SCRATCH, CUT THE NET!

HOW CAN I STOP THIS? HMM - -
WAIT, YOU FOOLS! THOSE ARE SAND SHARKS! THEY WON'T GO NEAR A HUMAN BEING!
WILSON McCOY 6-1

YOU SAY THOSE SHARKS AREN'T MAN-EATERS? THE SKIPPER SAID THEY WERE! HOW DO YOU KNOW?

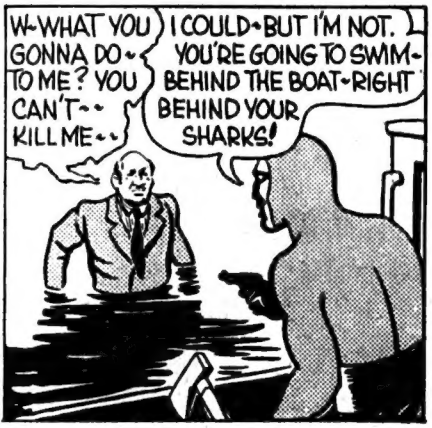
SEE THE FINS - AND THOSE MARKINGS! WHOEVER SOLD YOU THOSE SHARKS PULLED A FAST ONE!

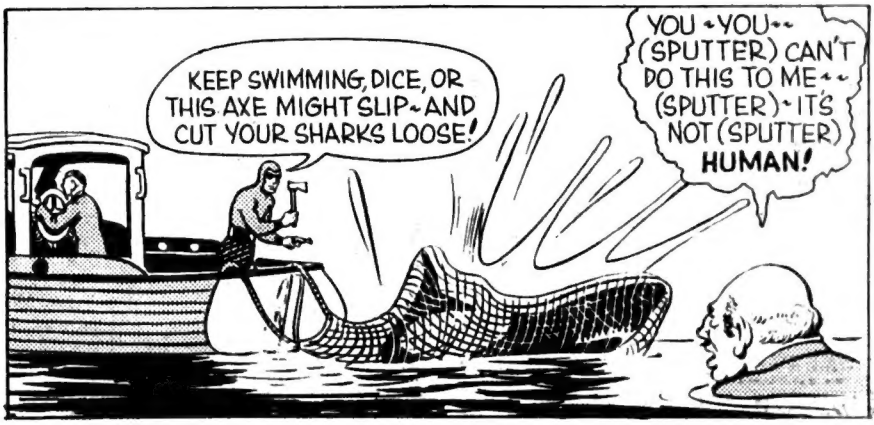

A SPLASH OF SALT WATER CATCHES SCRATCH BY SURPRISE - - HIS GUN DROPS FOR A MOMENT - -
WHY, EVERYBODY KNOWS THE DIFFERENCE - -
GLUB!!

BUT A MOMENT IS ALL THE PHANTOM NEEDS!
WILSON McCOY 6-2

IN THE COVE NEAR WHIRLPOOL CHANNEL
YOU'VE HAD THIS COMING FOR A LONG TIME, DICE--

GET AT THE WHEEL, SCRATCH! START THE BOAT!
WILSON, McCOY 6-4


W-WHAT YOU GONNA DO-TO ME? YOU CAN'T-- KILL ME--
I COULD-BUT I'M NOT. YOU'RE GOING TO SWIM-BEHIND THE BOAT-RIGHT BEHIND YOUR SHARKS!

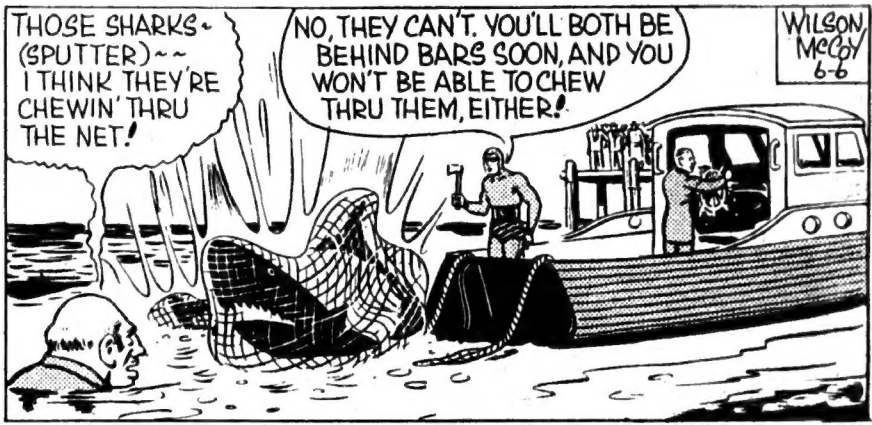

KEEP SWIMMING, DICE, OR THIS AXE MIGHT SLIP-AND CUT YOUR SHARKS LOOSE!
YOU-YOU-- (SPUTTER) CAN'T DO THIS TO ME-- (SPUTTER)-IT'S NOT (SPUTTER) HUMAN!

FINE TIME TO THINK OF THAT! WASN'T IT YOUR PLAN TO LET THOSE MAN-EATERS LOOSE WHILE DIANA'S SWIMMING OUT THERE?

UH-THEY MIGHT-BREAK THE NET-GET OUT-BY THEMSELVES-- PLEASE (SPUTTER) TAKE ME IN THE BOAT!
WILSON, McCOY 6-5

WHILE DIANA MAKES THE LONG, HARD PULL ACROSS WHIRLPOOL CHANNEL--
HOW'M I DOIN'?
FINE, MISS. PALMER.

ON THE DOCK, THE CROWD THAT CAME TO WATCH DIANA SEES A STRANGE SIGHT--
WHAT IN BLAZES IS ALL THAT?
HE CAME-AS HE SAID HE WOULD! BUT WHAT'S HE GOT WITH HIM?


THOSE SHARKS- (SPUTTER)-- I THINK THEY'RE CHEWIN' THRU THE NET!
NO, THEY CAN'T. YOU'LL BOTH BE BEHIND BARS SOON, AND YOU WON'T BE ABLE TO CHEW THRU THEM, EITHER!
WILSON, McCOY 6-6

WHAT ON EARTH IS ALL THIS? ARE THOSE SHARKS IN THE NET?
THEY ARE, UNCLE DAVE! AND THIS 'SHARK' IS YOUR OLD PAL DICE!
WILSON McCOY 6-7

HE WAS GOING TO RELEASE THESE MAN-EATING SHARKS OUT IN WHIRLPOOL CHANNEL - WHERE DIANA'S SWIMMING RIGHT NOW!
AW - TRY TO PROVE IT!

BUT WHY?
BECAUSE HE HATES YOU AND DIANA - AND ME. HE SAYS WE MADE A FOOL OUT OF HIM.

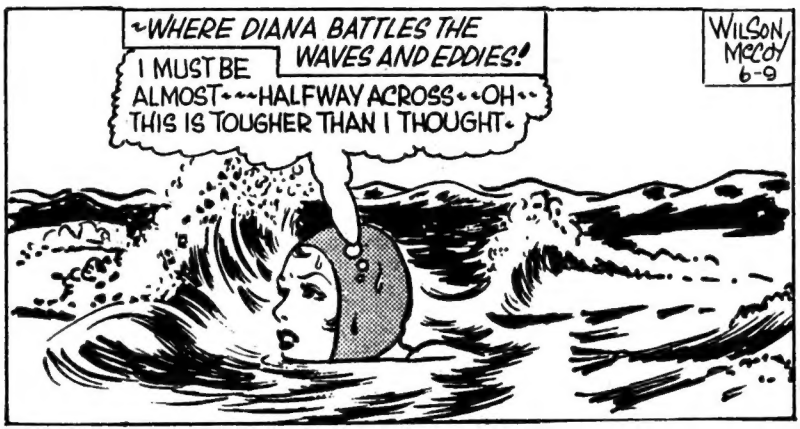
I'M SICK OF DOIN' WHAT HE SAYS! HE TRIED TO KILL DIANA PALMER WITH THOSE SHARKS!
THAT'S IT, DICE! WE'VE GOT THE WITNESS WE NEED! YOUR OWN MAN!
WORST THING I EVER HEARD OF! COME UP HERE, YOU!

DICE, FURIOUS, CAUGHT AT LAST, ALL HIS PLANS GONE UP IN SMOKE -

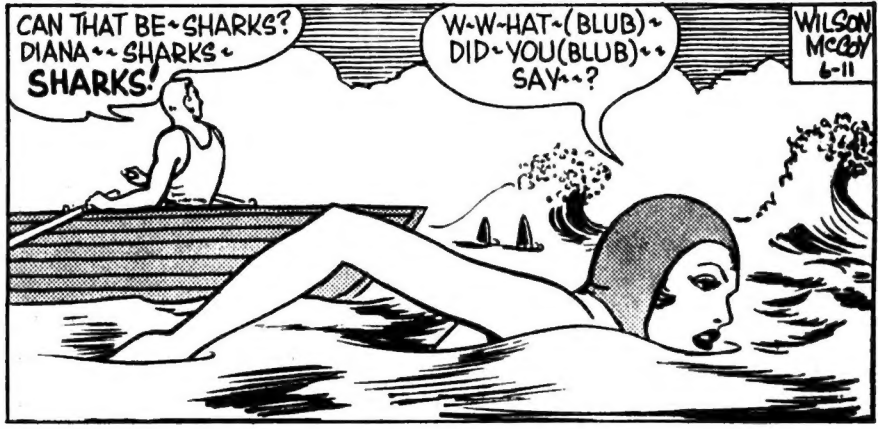
AND THE FREED SHARKS HEAD FOR OPEN WATER AND DIANA!
WILSON McCOY 6-8
THEY'RE MY FISH! I CAUGHT 'EM! I CAN THROW 'EM BACK!

DICE CUTS THE LINES, FREEING THE SHARKS - -

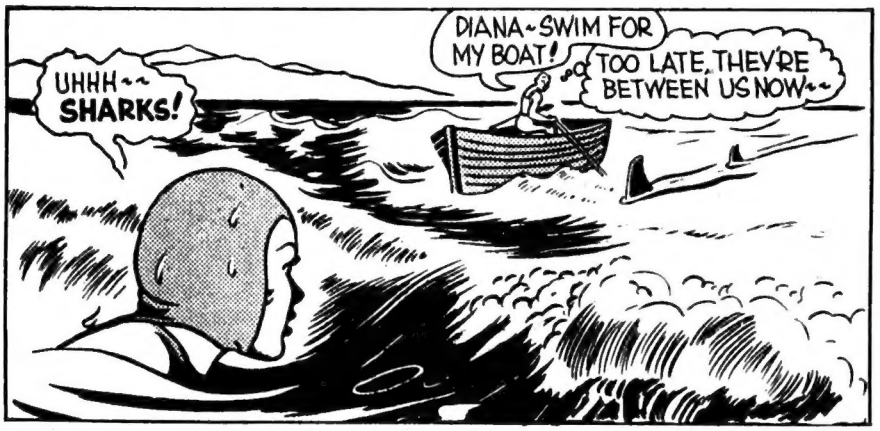
THE TWO GIANT MAN-EATERS HEAD FOR DEEPER WATER, INTO WHIRLPOOL CHANNEL - -


- WHERE DIANA BATTLES THE WAVES AND EDDIES!
WILSON McCOY 6-9
I MUST BE ALMOST - - - HALFWAY ACROSS - - OH - - THIS IS TOUGHER THAN I THOUGHT -

LET ME GET MY HANDS ON THAT-
HURRY-THOSE SHARKS ARE MOVING FAST!


CAN THAT BE-SHARKS? DIANA--SHARKS-SHARKS!
W-W-HAT-(BLUB)-DID-YOU(BLUB)--SAY--?
WILSON McCOY 6-11

CAN WE REACH HER IN TIME?
WE'VE GOT TO!

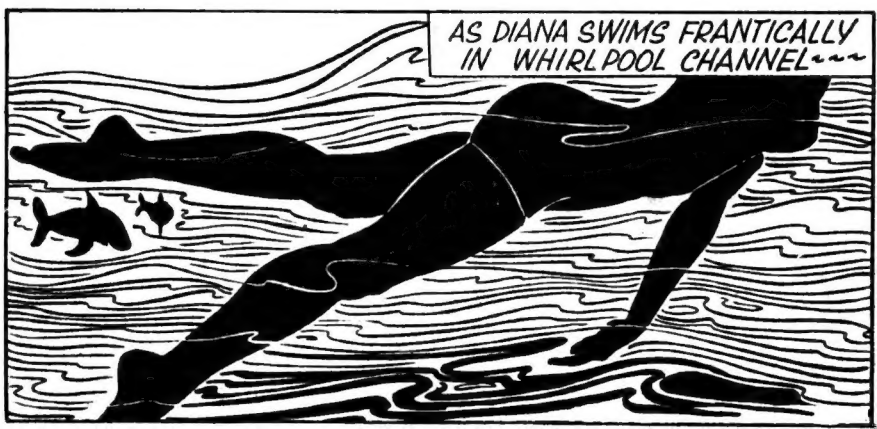

UHHH--SHARKS!
DIANA-SWIM FOR MY BOAT!
TOO LATE, THEY'RE BETWEEN US NOW--

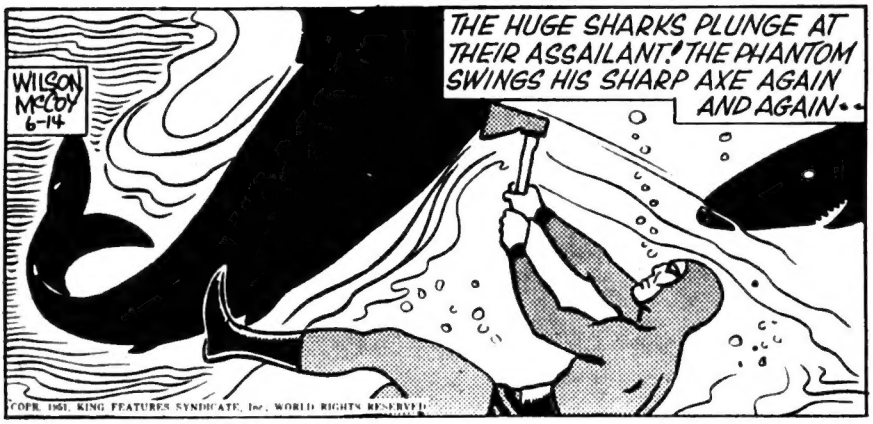
THE SHARKS-HAVE ALMOST REACHED HER!
TAKE THE WHEEL, DAVE!

GRABBING THE HAND AXE, THE PHANTOM DIVES OVERBOARD.
WILSON McCOY 6-12

HUNGRY, MAN-EATING SHARKS!

WILSON McCOY 6-13


AS DIANA SWIMS FRANTICALLY IN WHIRLPOOL CHANNEL---


WILSON McCOY 6-14
THE HUGE SHARKS PLUNGE AT THEIR ASSAILANT! THE PHANTOM SWINGS HIS SHARP AXE AGAIN AND AGAIN...
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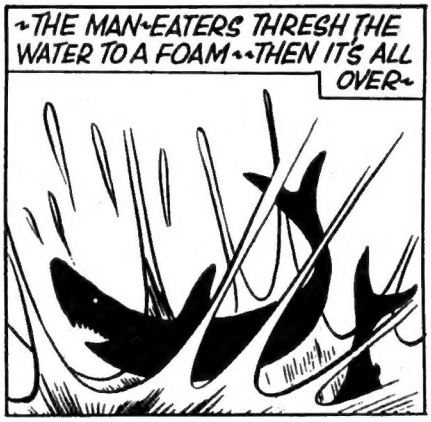
~THE MAN-EATERS THRESH THE WATER TO A FOAM...THEN IT'S ALL OVER~

OH~WHERE DID YOU COME FROM? THE SHARKS...
ALL GONE! KEEP SWIMMING! YOU'VE GOT A LONG PULL AHEAD!

YOU PROMISED...YOU'D BE HERE TODAY. HOW DID YOU DO IT? AND THOSE SHARKS...
A LONG STORY. TELL YOU LATER. ALL YOU'VE GOT TO WORRY ABOUT NOW IS WHIRLPOOL CHANNEL. I'LL SWIM WITH YOU.
WILSON McCOY 6-15

SHARKS AND ALL~SHE'S GOING TO MAKE IT! THE FIRST WOMAN IN HISTORY TO SWIM WHIRLPOOL CHANNEL!

OH, DARLING, WITH YOU IN HERE WITH ME, I COULD SWIM FOREVER.
SAVE YOUR BREATH. YOU'VE STILL GOT THREE MILES TO GO!

~Newspaper~
DIANA BEATS CHANNEL AND SHARKS
FIRST WOMAN TO SWIM WHIRLPOOL CHANNEL ESCAPES SHARKS IN EERIE MURDER PLOT
Dice, gambler held on attempt

HOW ABOUT THOSE SHARKS, MISS PALMER?
THEY SCARED ME SO I FORGOT I WAS TIRED. MADE THE SWIM EASIER.
I'LL BET!
WILSON McCOY 6-16

DARLING~IF IT HADN'T BEEN FOR YOU~WELL...
"ALL'S WELL THAT ENDS WELL."

I'VE LEARNED ONE THING FROM THIS: NEVER BET WITH STRANGERS!
NEVER BET, PERIOD.